GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1865
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2008
CONSERVATION OF BIO DIVERSITY OF WESTERN GHATS
Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

:

(a) whether the bio-diversity of the Western Ghats is not fully explored; and

(b) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to explore and protect the same ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir.The bio-diversity of the Western Ghats is not yet fully explored. The exploration of the area is carried out by the Botanical Survey of India; Zoological Survey of India; 'Centre of Ecological Sciences' under the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and many other regional institutions.The technical man power of the Botanical Survey of India and the Zoological Survey of India have been strengthened.In order to protect the biodiversity of the region,a number of National Parks, Wildlife Sanctuaries,Tiger Reserves and Elephant Reserves have been notified.In addition, the parts of Nilgiri and the Augasthiyamalai areas have been designated as Biosphere Reserves. Ex-situ conservation of rare and endemic plants has been promoted through botanic gardens and the centres of ex-situ conservation.